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United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Northeastern Area State & Private Forestry | 180 Canfield Street Morgantown, WV 26505-3101

File Code: 3400
Date: July 2, 2004

Mr. Wayne P. Claus
National Plant Germplasm and Biotechnology Laboratory
APHIS PPQ NPGBL BARC EAST, Bldg. 580
Beltsville, MD 20705

Dear Wayne:

On June 14, 2004, I conducted an aerial survey for gypsy moth-caused tree defoliation at the National Plant Germplasm and Biotechnology Laboratory. I am pleased to report that no defoliation was detected at, or in the vicinity of, your site.

However, if you anticipate requesting either financial or technical assistance for gypsy moth control in 2005, please contact Brad Onken (304) 285-1546 or me (304) 285-1555 before August 27, 2004.

I have also enclosed a pest alert on the emerald ash borer, *Agrilus planipennis*. This exotic beetle feeds on various species of ash and is a major threat to the ash resource of the region. Emerald ash borer has been detected in areas of Ohio, Michigan, Virginia and Maryland. The two most common ways of spreading emerald ash borer is through the movement of infested nursery stock or through the movement of infested fire wood. Additional information on emerald ash borer can be found at www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/eab .

Please contact me of the above number if you have any questions regarding this aerial survey letter or emerald ash borer.

Sincerely,

Rodney L. Whiteman

RODNEY L. WHITEMAN
Forester
Forest Health Protection

Enclosure

Cc: Robert Tichenor, MDA
Sally Hughes, MDA
Noel Schneeberger, AO